



1774

Practitioner's Docket No.: 245_361RCE

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Pierre Girard et al.

March 14, 2003

Ser. No.: 09/508,316

Art Unit: 1774

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Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on March 14, 2003.

Susanne C. Aregano
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AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action, Paper No. 15, dated December 23, 2002, please amend the above-captioned patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1 and 4 as follows:

C¹

1. (Three Times Amended) At least one of a paper and a board consisting of a fibrous medium coated with at least one conventional surface coat printed by gravure or flexographic printing, and including, between the fibrous medium and the conventional surface coat, an inner coat of a composition based on specific pigments, said inner coat being deposited in an amount from one to five grams per square meter (1 to 5 g/m²), wherein:

- the composition of the conventional surface coat does not contain silica and
- the composition of the inner coat includes at least one specific pigment chosen exclusively from the group consisting of silica and precipitated calcium carbonate (PCC).

C²

4. (Three Times Amended) A process for the manufacture of a paper or a board, printed by gravure or flexographic printing, which consists of the following steps:

- producing a fibrous medium from a paper suspension;
- depositing on the fibrous medium between one and five grams per square meter (1 and 5 g/m²) of a composition based on specific pigments chosen from the group consisting exclusively of silica and precipitated calcium carbonate;
- drying the fibrous medium which has been deposited;

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